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## NEWS

# Massachusetts Weekly Initial Unemployment Claimant Data (05-07-20)

April 26 to May 2

5/07/2020

Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

## MEDIA CONTACT

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Massachusetts had 55,223 individuals file an initial claim for standard [Unemployment Insurance \(UI\)](#) (</how-to/apply-for-unemployment-benefits>) from April 26 to May 2, the fifth consecutive week of fewer initial claims filing over the previous week. Since March 15, a total of 777,232 initial claims have been filed for UI. For the week of April 26 to May 2, there were a total of 556,272 continued UI claims, an increase of 5.4% over the previous week.

Since April 20<sup>th</sup>, around 185,000 claimants have filed for [Pandemic Unemployment Assistance \(PUA\)](#) (</how-to/apply-for-pandemic-unemployment-assistance>).

Over the last month, the customer service staff at the [Department of Unemployment Assistance \(DUA\)](#) (</orgs/departments-of-unemployment-assistance>) has grown from around 50 employees to over 1300. The remote customer service operation is now making over 25,000 individual contacts per day and DUA continues to host daily unemployment town halls – which are being held in English, Spanish, and Portuguese – and have been attended by over 230,000 constituents. Massachusetts was one of the first states to successfully launch the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program. Due to DUA's previous efforts to migrate their systems to the cloud, the first unemployment agency in the country to do so, the unemployment online platforms for both regular UI and PUA has maintained functionality throughout the surge in demand.

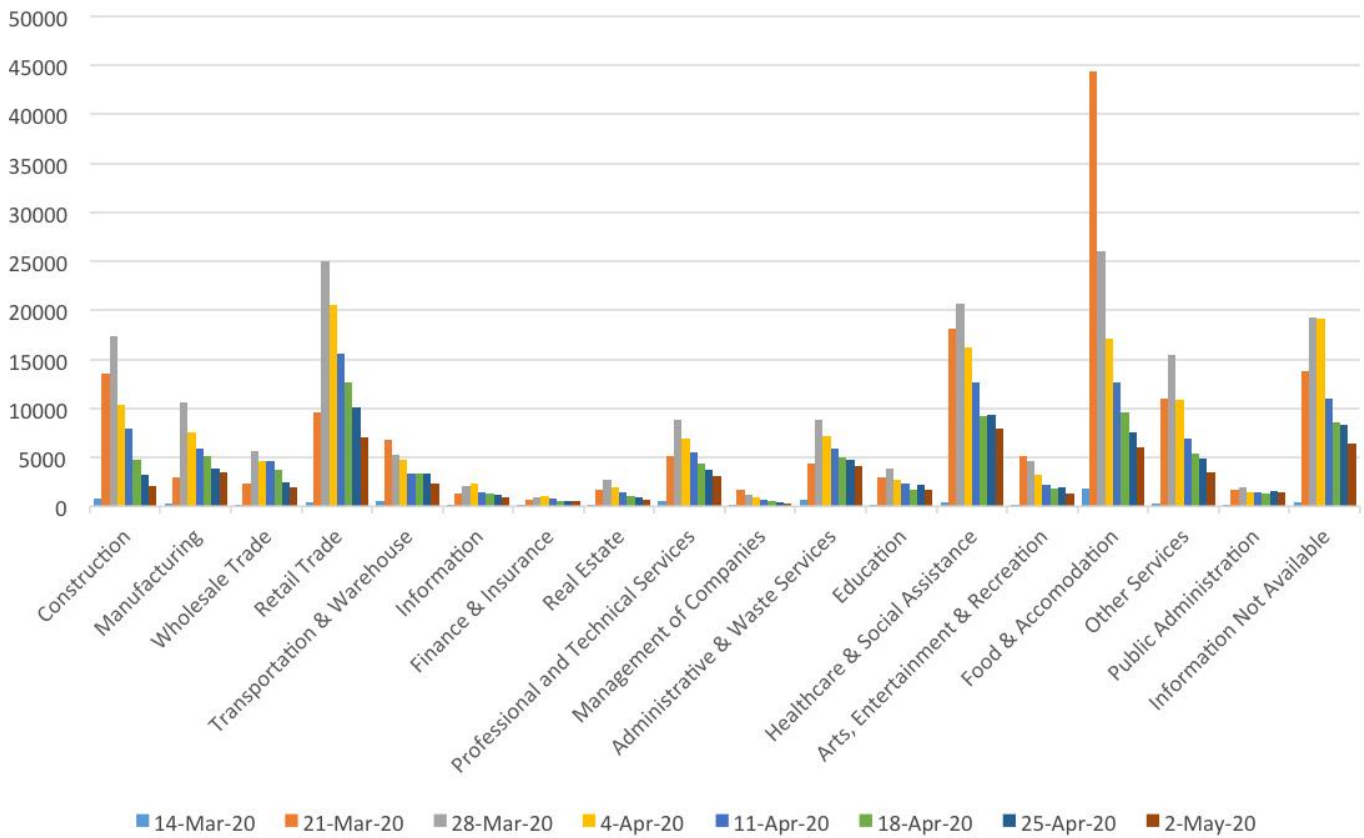
*The below tables and graphs are relative to standard UI only.*

Initial Claims Filed				
Industry	Week Ending 4/25	Week Ending 5/2	Change	% Change
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	208	166	-42	-20.2%

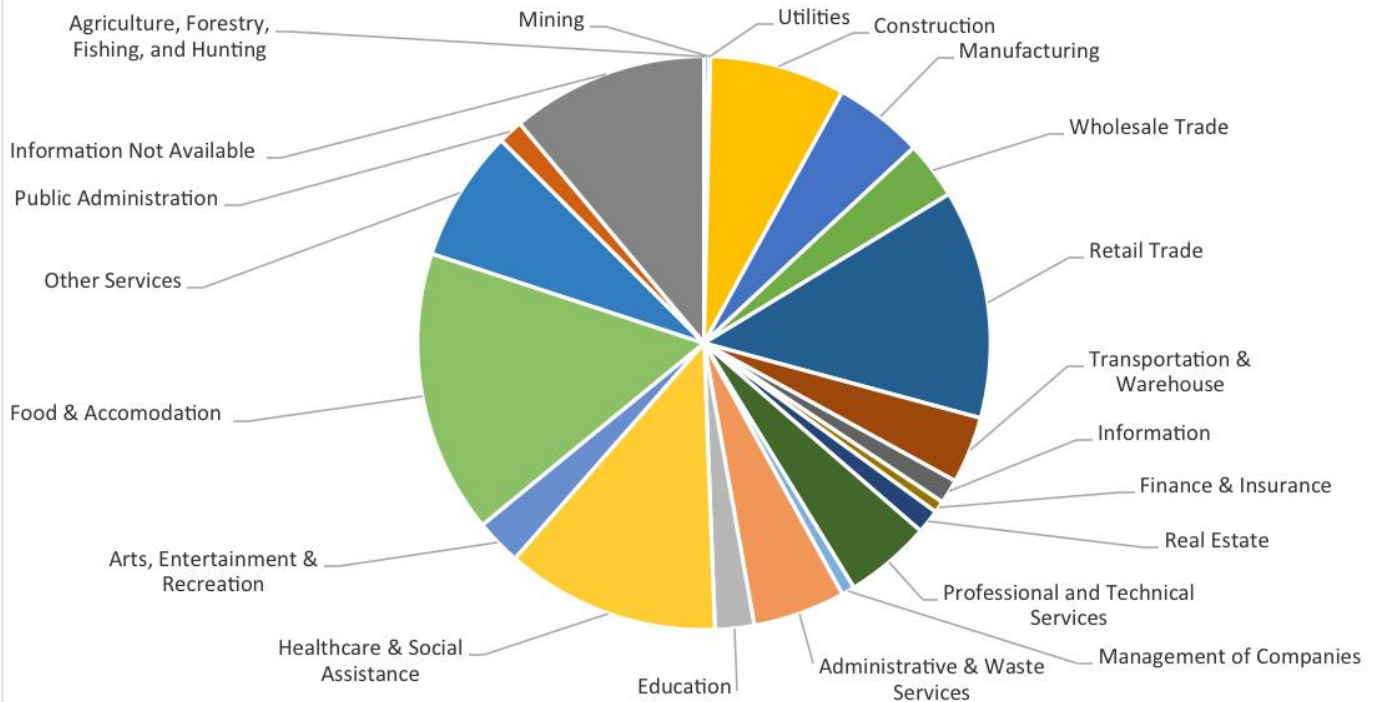
Industry	Week Ending 4/25	Week Ending 5/2	Change	% Change
Mining	12	10	-2	-16.7%
Utilities	50	35	-15	-30.0%
Construction	3,155	2,119	-1,036	-32.8%
Manufacturing	3,798	3,435	-363	-9.6%
Wholesale Trade	2,452	1,889	-563	-23.0%
Retail Trade	10,085	7,060	-3,025	-30.0%
Transportation & Warehouse	3,289	2,356	-933	-28.4%
Information	1,200	967	-233	-19.4%
Finance & Insurance	592	557	-35	-5.9%
Real Estate	977	689	-288	-29.5%
Professional and Technical Services	3,775	3,065	-710	-18.8%
Management of Companies	421	346	-75	-17.8%

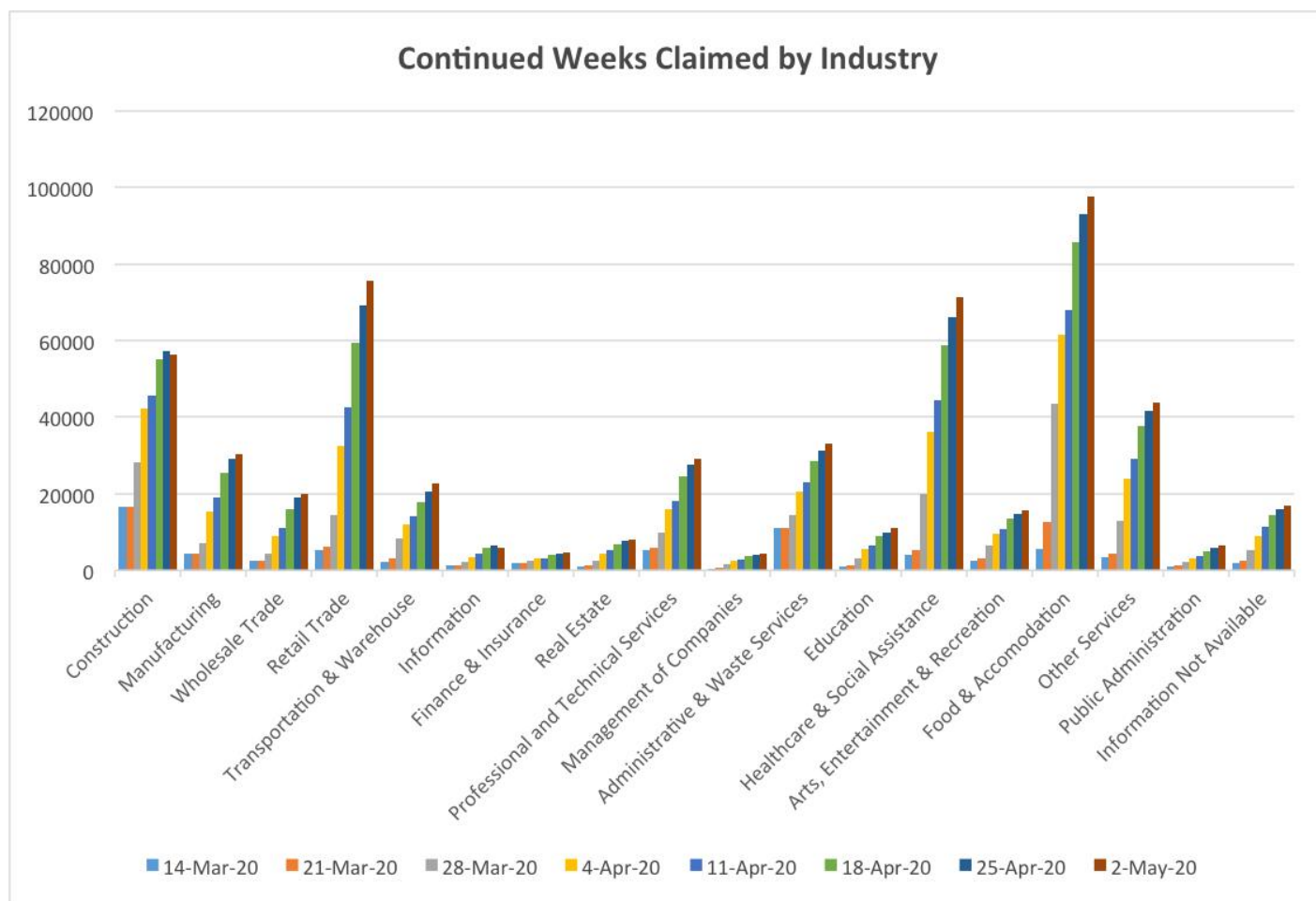
Industry	Week Ending 4/25	Week Ending 5/2	Change	% Change
Administrative & Waste Services	4,788	4,129	-659	-13.8%
Education	2,140	1,670	-470	-22.0%
Health & Social Assistance	9,271	7,943	-1,328	-14.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,889	1,299	-590	-31.2%
Food & Accommodation	7,515	6,051	-1,464	-19.5%
Other Services	4,833	3,429	-1,404	-29.1%
Public Administration	1,604	1,466	-138	-8.6%
Information Not Available	8,498	6,542	-1,956	-23.0%

### Weekly Initial Claims by Industry



### Initial Claims by Industry, March 15th - April 25th (virus-surge)





The tables below show the breakdown of regular unemployment insurance initial claims from March 15<sup>th</sup> – April 25<sup>th</sup> along gender, ethnicity, and race.

### Gender

	Number	Percentage
Female	382,017	52.95%
Male	339,430	47.05%

### Ethnicity

	Number	Percentage
Hispanic or Latino	103,261	15.12%
Not Hispanic or Latino	579,634	84.88%

Race		
	Number	Percentage
American Indian or Alaska Native	3,669	0.59%
Asian	49,119	7.88%
Black or African American	62,276	9.99%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2,066	0.33%
White	506,409	81.22%

## Media Contact

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## Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

(/orgs/executive-office-of-labor-and-workforce-development)

EOLWD manages the Commonwealth's workforce development and labor departments to ensure that workers, employers, and the unemployed have the tools and training needed to succeed in the Massachusetts economy.

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